Improved arc lamp for projection.—Users of projection lanterns will be interested in learning of a recent improvement in the arc-lamp. This consists in the placing in the circuit of a pair of coils of heavy copper wire, one on either side of the arc at a distance of about 1½ inches. The current passing thru the coils creates two magnetic fields which serve to control the arc. By the use of this device sputtering is largely done away with and the position of the crater remains nearly constant. A lamp so equipped requires less frequent attention than does the old style. In a recent trial of this device when using about 10 amperes of current at 220 volts an arc gave fifteen minutes' service without any adjustments being made. At intervals after ten minutes of use there was a slight sputtering and at the end of fifteen minutes the arc broke. Throughout the whole time the light was serviceable. The device may be had on lanterns furnished by the Bausch and Lomb Optical Co. and by Spencer Lens Co. GEORGE R. LA RUE.

SHORT METHOD FOR AFFIXING STAINED SECTIONS.

The following short method for affixing sections of stained tissues has been used to good advantage. Place on a clean glass slide a small drop of fixative prepared by mixing equal parts of oil-of-cloves and collodion. Rub until a thin coat is forme.d Lay upon the slide the paraffin ribbons of sections, and flatten out the latter by pressing them down with the tip of the finger. Place the slide in xylol until the paraffin is dissolved off and mount in balsam.

Zool. Lab. Kan. State Agri. Coll. JAMES E. ACKERT.

MOUNTING BOTANICAL MATERIAL IN SODIUM SILICATE MEDIUM.

S. F. Maxwell (Ill. Micr. Soc. Oct. meeting) recommends the employment of sodium silicate for mounting delicate vegetable preparations that do not readily endure dehydration. Use any solution that is free from precipitated silica. Have the solution of a consistency of a medium thick jelly. Place section in it, and place cover as usual. It sets very quickly, in 24 hours, and is very durable. No dehydration is necessary. The method is both useful and easy.

V. A. L.